

COLLEGE TUITION CRISIS

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak about our college tuition crisis. It's a topic of conversation that comes up around kitchen tables all across America. Parents are seeing college tuition creep up year after year, while their income has declined or stagnated and their savings have been squeezed. Parents are worried that their children won't get a shot at the American Dream because they simply cannot afford the cost of higher education.

The President's budget proposal makes it clear that even in these tough budgetary times we cannot shirk our responsibilities to strengthen investments in education. I share his commitment to increasing college affordability and quality. Freezing interest rates on subsidized student loans is something we can do something about right now to help millions of students across the country. Failure to act means that 7 million students could see their interest rates double to 6.8 percent.

I urge my colleagues to work with the President to make sure that this issue gets the time and attention that it deserves.

CATCH INITIATIVE

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Coordinated Approach to Child Health initiative, CATCH, an innovative program being implemented in Houston and across Texas to combat rising rates of childhood obesity.

It's no secret that childhood obesity is a growing problem in our country. Statistics show that 18 percent of elementary schoolchildren are overweight, and the number is growing every year.

The University of Texas School of Public Health created CATCH to help elementary schools, children, and their families adopt healthy eating and physical activity behaviors.

CATCH is a huge success. It's been adopted by more than 2,500 elementary schools in Texas, impacting 800,000 schoolchildren—that's 50 percent of Texas elementary schools. CATCH has received national recognition for being one of the most comprehensive and cost-effective approaches in fighting childhood obesity.

Madam Speaker, I commend all schools in Texas that have adopted this program. They recognize that every child needs to be taught, and every child needs to be taught how to grow up healthy.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO
LOTTIE HARRIS ROLLINS
DUNSTON

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Today, family and friends will gather to celebrate the 100th birthday of Lottie Harris Rollins Dunston, a wonderful human being who has lived in Wake County, North Carolina, her entire life.

"Grandlottie," as she is affectionately called, is the second eldest of 13 siblings, 7 of whom are still living and advanced in age. After working her way through historic Fayetteville State College, she went on to become an elementary teacher, where she shaped young minds for 41 long years.

Today, Grandlottie is a lover of Shakespeare and politics and, most of all, cherishes her independence. So often she can be seen driving her white pickup truck as she shops for her needs with her 5-year-old chocolate lab, Diva.

Madam Speaker, Grandlottie loves her supportive family that includes granddaughter Jacquelyn Rollins Wynn, whose husband serves on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

We pray that Grandlottie continues to enjoy health and happiness for many more years. Happy birthday to you. And most of all, thank you for making North Carolina a better place to live and work.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
TAKEOVER OF HEALTH CARE

(Mr. CANSECO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CANSECO. Madam Speaker, when the Democrats passed the unconstitutional government takeover of health care, they cleverly front-loaded some of the provisions but left the most troubling mandates and requirements to be implemented at a later date.

Recently, the Obama administration released its controversial contraception mandate, and Americans got a glance of the looming disaster that the health care law will produce once it actually goes fully into effect. This mandate is one of the first prescribed by the Democrats' government health care takeover, but it will not be the last. Unfortunately, the HHS ruling that ignores religious freedom is just one example of the many disastrous provisions of a top-down, government-controlled health care system.

If Americans did not like this provision, they certainly won't like the IPAB, the Independent Payment Advisory Board, a group of 15 unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats who will control virtually every health care decision.

I urge my colleagues to support commonsense legislation that will protect

the rights of all human life, including the unborn, and to continue working to fully repeal the Democrats' government health care takeover as a whole, as well as the harmful individual provisions that violate our constitutional rights.

WORKING TOGETHER TO EXTEND
PAYROLL TAX CUT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BENEFITS

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Madam Speaker, I've come to this floor practically every week for the past few months asking my friends on both sides of the aisle to work together to extend the payroll tax cut and the unemployment benefits for a full year. As we convene this today, it looks like we may have a deal.

To be sure that we follow through, let's remind ourselves what this would mean for Americans:

Working families would see more than \$80 a month in their pockets—almost \$1,000 for the year. It's always good for people to be able to keep more of their money in their own pockets;

And 2.8 million Americans and nearly 500,000 Californians, where I come from, would be able to keep their unemployment benefits, their lifeline during these tough times;

And the doc fix would allow seniors on Medicare to continue to see their own doctors.

I know the ink isn't dry, but I believe this is the type of compromise and governing that our constituents and all of America wants to see us do here in Congress. I want to encourage the leadership on both sides of the aisle to get this deal done, move forward, and create jobs in this great country.

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H.R. 3572, THE CAMERAS IN THE
COURTROOM ACT

(Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, there's nothing more important to democracy than sunshine. This March among the most historic and momentous cases ever to come before the Supreme Court will be health care.

Many Americans supported health care reform, many opposed it. It was the product of hundreds of hours of debate on this very floor and in committees over many months. While there are a limited number of seats for the public here in the House, thanks to C-SPAN millions of Americans had the opportunity to view those proceedings.

Unfortunately, when the case comes before the Supreme Court, just 50 Americans will be able to witness it. Shouldn't transparency require that the average citizen have an opportunity to view those proceedings?